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# 3A

## Action

### *Professional Services Committee*

#### **Passing Standard Review for the California Subject Matter Examinations for Teachers (CSET): American Sign Language Examination**

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## **AGENDA INSERT**

**Executive Summary:** This item presents the recommendations from the 2009 Passing Standard Review Advisory Committee concerning the CSET: American Sign Language Examination.

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends Commission adoption of the proposed staff recommendation concerning the CSET: American Sign Language Examination.

**Presenter:** Phyllis Jacobson, Ed.D.,  
Administrator, Professional Services Division

**Strategic Plan Goal: 1**

**Promote educational excellence through the preparation and certification of professional educators**

- ◆ Sustain high quality standards for the preparation and performance of professional educators and for the accreditation of credential programs

January 2009



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## Passing Standard Review for the California Subject Matter Examinations for Teachers (CSET): American Sign Language Examination

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The 2009 Passing Standard Advisory Review panel for the CSET: American Sign Language Examination met in Sacramento during January 15-16, 2009. The panel members represented experts in the field of American Sign Language (ASL), and included higher education faculty, community college faculty, K-12 teachers of ASL, curriculum specialists, and interpreters of ASL. Following an orientation by the examinations contractor, NCS Pearson, Inc., panel members engaged in the same standard setting review process described in the agenda item as was conducted for the initial standard setting study in December 2005.

### 2009 CSET: ASL Passing Standard Recommendations

The panel made its final recommendations at the conclusion of the standard setting review activities. The panel's passing standard recommendations are summarized below.

- For all subtests, change the current passing standards for the multiple-choice and the constructed-response components
- Retain the current component score weighting between multiple-choice and constructed-response components on each subtest

Table A below presents the 2009 panel-recommended passing score standards by subtest.

**Table A**  
**Passing Standards for the CSET: ASL Examination Based on the**  
**2009 Panel Recommendations**

Subtest	Total Possible Score Points <sup>1</sup>	Multiple-Choice Raw Score Points	Constructed-Response Raw Score Points	Component Score Combination Rule: MC/CR <sup>2</sup>
I	MC = 24	17	10	70/30
	CR = 14			
II	MC = 24	18	9	70/30
	CR = 12			
III	MC = 15	11	16	40/60
	CR = 24			

<sup>1</sup> MC = multiple-choice items; CR = constructed-response items

<sup>2</sup> The component score combination rule is formatted as multiple-choice percent /constructed-response percent (e.g., 70/30 is a weighting of 70% multiple-choice items and 30% constructed-response items).

In accordance with established Commission procedure for the CSET program, the panel-recommended passing standards were then adjusted for standard error of measurement (S.E.M.). Below are the panel's recommendations for each of the three CSET: ASL Examination subtests, modified to include the -1 S.E.M. adjustment. Table B below may be compared with Table 2 in the agenda item, which provides the 2005 Commission-adopted initial passing standards for the CSET: ASL Examination.

**Table B**  
**Staff-Recommended Passing Standards for CSET: American Sign Language,**  
**Based on the 2009 Advisory Panel Recommendations Adjusted**  
**by -1 Standard Error of Measurement**

<b>Subtest</b>	<b>Total Possible Score Points<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Multiple-Choice Raw Score Points</b>	<b>Constructed-Response Raw Score Points</b>	<b>Component Score Combination Rule: MC/CR<sup>2</sup></b>
I	MC = 24	15	9	70/30
	CR = 14			
II	MC = 24	15	8	70/30
	CR = 12			
III	MC = 15	9	14	40/60
	CR = 24			

<sup>1</sup> MC = multiple-choice items; CR = constructed-response items

<sup>2</sup> The component score combination rule is formatted as multiple-choice percent /constructed-response percent (e.g., 70/30 is a weighting of 70% multiple-choice items and 30% constructed-response items).

### **Effect of Adopting the Recommended CSET: ASL Passing Standards**

If the Commission adopts the staff recommended CSET: ASL Passing Standards as presented in this item, the passing rate for this examination would likely increase.

### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the Commission adopt the passing standards for the subtests of the CSET: American Sign Language Examination as provided in Table B above. This recommendation follows the previously approved guidelines for the establishment of CSET standards (see Appendix C of the agenda item). The staff-recommended raw score points for both the multiple-choice and the constructed-response components reflect adjustments made for standard errors of measurement as appropriate.

If the Commission adopts the staff-recommended passing standards as indicated in Table B, these standards will apply to the next administration of the CSET: ASL Examination in May 2009, and to all subsequent administrations of the CSET: ASL Examination.